

Using a Sequence of Data

Being able to follow directions allows you to complete many useful tasks. When reading directions, it is important to determine the order of steps, the **sequence**. Go through the steps quickly at first to get a general idea of what you have to do. Then read them again slowly and carefully.

Since directions are an important part of everyday reading, you usually find them on reading tests. Often you have to identify the sequence—which step comes first, second, or last. Or you have to tell what you should do or watch for at a certain point in the sequence.



Tips for Success

- Look in the text for the specific words and phrases used in a question. The answer will often be nearby.
- Look for words that show time order: **before, after, first, second, next, last, then, finally.**

Read these directions for growing a “pomato” plant. Pay attention to the order of steps you need to follow.

Grafting 1-2-3

Grafting projects require planning ahead. Allow at least 8 weeks from the time you graft the two plants to allow your “pomato” to flower and fruit.

You can grow the potato and tomato plants in separate pots or together in one large pot. When both are about 1 foot (30 cm) high, pull the main stems together. Where they touch, shave each stem with a craft knife just enough to expose the interior tubes. Tie the surfaces together with string; then, press the wax completely around the graft to protect it.

Allow about a week for the graft to take, checking for yellowing or withering on both plants. If the plants look healthy, cut off the top of the potato plant and the bottom of the tomato plant—turning your potato and tomato graft into a single “pomato.” . . . When tomatoes appear above, you can be sure that potatoes grow below!

—Glen Vecchione, *100 Amazing Make-It-Yourself Science Fair Projects*

1. When do you cut off the top of the potato plant?
 - A. about a week after grafting
 - B. when both are about 1 foot high
 - C. as soon as you graft them
 - D. at least 8 weeks from the time you graft the two plants

1. ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D

Mark your answer choice by filling in the oval.



Now check to see whether you chose the correct answer.

- A. This is the correct answer. If the plants look healthy a week after the graft you can cut off the top of the potato and the bottom of the tomato.
- B. You graft the plants when they are about 1-foot high.
- C. After grafting, you have to wait to make sure the graft takes.
- D. Eight weeks after you graft, the plants will flower and fruit.

Test Practice Read these directions for what to do if someone chokes while eating.

RESPIRATORY EMERGENCIES

- If a person chokes when eating, first assess the blockage, or obstruction.
- If the victim has only a *partial obstruction* of the airway, he or she will be able to speak and cough forcefully, often with a wheezing sound. In such a situation, do not interfere with the victim's attempts to expel the blockage.
- If the victim has a *complete obstruction* of the airway, he or she will be unable to breathe, speak, or cough, and may show distress by grasping at the throat.
- If the victim of a complete obstruction is standing or sitting, use back blows or thrusts.

Back Blows

1. Position yourself at the side of and slightly behind the victim and place one hand high on his chest for support.
2. Lean the victim forward so that his head is at chest level or lower, to utilize the advantages of gravity.
3. Deliver four sharp blows with the heel of your hand as rapidly as possible to the region just below the shoulders.

Thrusts

1. Stand behind the victim and wrap your arms around his waist. Place the thumb side of your fist against the victim's abdomen, slightly above the navel and below the tip of his sternum.
2. Grasp your fist with your other hand and press it into the victim's abdomen with four quick upward thrusts.

1. (A) (B) (C) (D)
2. (A) (B) (C) (D)
3. (A) (B) (C) (D)
4. (A) (B) (C) (D)

Mark the best answer for questions 1-4.

1. If a person chokes while eating, what is the first thing you should do?

- A. Stand behind the victim.
- B. Encourage the person to sit or lie down.
- C. Determine whether the blockage is partial or complete.
- D. Grasp your fist with your other hand and press it into the victim's abdomen.

2. After standing behind a victim to whom you will give back blows, you should next

- A. place a hand on his chest for support.
- B. let the victim attempt to expel the blockage.

- C. lean the victim forward.

- D. deliver four blows with your hand.

3. How many thrusts should you use to dislodge an obstruction?

- A. two
- B. four
- C. six
- D. eight

4. A choking victim wheezes while talking. This suggests that he

- A. will benefit from thrusts.
- B. should lean forward or lie down.
- C. has a complete obstruction.
- D. should attempt to clear the blockage himself.